

has shown himself far more benevolent and noble than I supposed him to be - and than I have given him credit for in my earlier speeches and publications. He is doubtless, a much better Christian than many here at the North who call upon Slave holders to Emancipate ~~their~~ their Slaves. His sense of justice costs him something. It is noble of him to make the sacrifice & to do so in a community where his justice is not popular.

Nevertheless, considering that the average length of human life falls far below thirty years - it seems to me that his charity and justice would have appeared to far better advantage had he set an earlier age, as the one at which to emancipate his servants.

I am however immeasurably thankful to God that my old Master has thus far put himself in harmony with the spirit of Christ - and the requirements of justice.

William Watkins - for whom you inquire still resides in Rochester - but has not been connected with me in the publication of my paper for a year past.

Please write me and say whether I am at liberty to make any public use of the st record with which you have favored me.

I am, Dear Sir,

Very gratefully yours
Frederick Douglass

James Hall Esqr.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

II. Correspondence Received
A. Letter Books

14. November 1857—November 1863

1859